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A Publication of Missouri Department of Transportation's

Motor Carrier Services

FMCSA Proposes No Change to New Hours-of-Service Rule

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration re-proposed its driver hours-of-service rules, making no changes to the regulations a federal court had overturned. FMCSA did, however, add several pages of comments on how the rules would enhance driver health. The agency also said it is conducting a scientific review of the physical effects long hours have on commercial vehicle operators.

On Jan. 4, 2004, new rules took effect that expanded the time a driver can drive to 11 hours from 10, and reduced the number of hours a driver can be on-duty from 15 to 14. The rules do not allow drivers to "clock out" during meals, fuel breaks or for loading and unloading activity.

Last summer, the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals overturned the rules. The court agreed with a lawsuit filed by public interest group Public Citizen that the regulations "failed to consider the impact of the rules on the health of the drivers," according to the court's written opinion.

Congress soon ordered that the rules not change until FMCSA was able to respond to the court's ruling.

Though FMCSA has not yet proposed changes to the rules, it did ask for public comment on "what changes to that rule, if any, are necessary to respond to the concerns raised by the court." Those concerned should visit FMCSA's website, <http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/> to read the notice of proposed rulemaking in the Federal Register about commercial drivers' HOS.

The comment period for rule making will end on March 10. Existing rules will remain in effect until no later than September 30, 2005.

FMCSA Administrator Annette Sandberg said in a statement, "We are moving aggressively to make sure we have the best regulations in place to ensure truck driver health, save lives and keep the American economy moving safely on the nation's highways. Public feedback is critical to this effort. We need to hear from our stakeholders about their experiences regarding the 2003 HOS rule."

Paraphrased from articles By Transport Topics January 19, 2005

OD/OW Task Force at Work

The OD/OW workgroup met in Jefferson City on January 20, 2005. This group of industry representatives, federal, MoDOT and other state agency employees is charged with updating state rules and processes related to over-dimension and overweight permits. The task force discussed the superload process, escorting requirements, proposed rules and regulations and the possible development of an envelope vehicle – a vehicle that falls within standard size and weight limitations – to allow multi-state permitting. To view the minutes from this meeting or to send comments, please visit our website at www.carrier.state.mo.us. We want to hear from you!

Jan's Letter

Your Missouri Carrier One-Stop is a reality! All of MoDOT Motor Carrier Services' functions – IFTA, IRP, OD/OW permits, operating authority and enforcement – are now located at 1320 Creek Trail Drive, Jefferson City, Mo.

Thank you to all carriers who filed their registration in a timely manner and to the hundreds of carriers who came to our office to get their credentials to operate in 2005. In December, MCS issued OD/OW permits at nearly the high summer-time level. We regret the time our current renewal and permitting processes take from your business, but help is on the way! Look for us to roll out our new computer system in August. It will allow you to handle most transactions, including credit card payment, over the Internet. It's important for you to attend training sessions on the new system so that you can get the most benefits – be sure to watch for scheduling information. And starting in 2006, you can choose to move your registration deadline to a calendar quarter more convenient for you.

In the meantime, MCS will employ other ways to provide the best service possible. One way we'll do that is to keep our office open on several state holidays. Look for a revised calendar in this newsletter.

This spring, regulations will be proposed in the Missouri Register that update OD/OW requirements. Permittees, stakeholders, the Missouri State Highway Patrol, and MoDOT have worked to ensure these proposed regulations facilitate economic growth and protect the safety of the traveling public.

I hope you were able to attend the educational sessions we just completed. MCS partnered with the Missouri Motor Carrier Association to encourage you to be a part of the National Highway Watch Program. This program teaches carriers how they can serve as the nation's eyes and ears out on the road. You can help fight terrorism!

Let me encourage you to call, email or stop by if you have any questions or recommendations for MCS. We're eager to hear from you!



Motor Carrier Services Director

Motor Carrier Services New One Stop Shop

1320 Creek Trail Drive
Jefferson City, MO

Phone: 573.751.7100
or 866.831.6277
Fax: 573.751.0916



Moving Violations Committed in Personal Vehicles to Affect CDL License

Effective September 30, 2005, individuals who hold or are required to obtain a commercial drivers license and who commit a moving violation in their personal vehicle can lose driving privileges.

Drivers ticketed for a moving violation while operating a personal vehicle will find that points assessed for the violation also count against their CDL.

Driving under the influence will carry a stronger penalty. Drivers with a CDL who are cited for DUI in a personal car

currently lose driving privileges for 30 days and can obtain a 60 day restricted license. Beginning September 30, 2005, that same driver will lose their license for one year and cannot obtain a restricted or limited driving privilege to drive a commercial motor vehicle.

For more detailed information, visit the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations web site: www.fmcsa.dot.gov and go to Title 49, CFR, parts 383 and 384.

Auto Haulers Need Haz Mat Insurance

Attention automobile haulers – you’re the subject of an insurance regulation change!

In March 2004, FMCSA changed the interpretation of FMCSR – Title 49, Part 387. Now, motor vehicle haulers must obtain \$1 million in public liability insurance.

Motor vehicles under transport are considered to be hazardous material. Even though vehicles being

transported by motor vehicle are subject only to 49 CFR 173.220 of the hazardous material regulations, they meet the definition of “Hazardous material” in 49 CFR 171.8 because “Vehicle, flammable gas powered” and “Vehicle, flammable liquid powered” are designated as hazardous in 49 CFR 172.101 [UN 3166].

You can read more about the interpretation on the FMCSA web page, www.fmcsa.dot.gov.

Update on the Progress of the New Web-based Computer System

It’s almost here! MoDOT Motor Carrier Services expects to implement a new web-based computer system late this summer.

Once complete, the new system will give MCS customers the ability to view their own accounts, complete on-line applications and receive paper credentials from their own printer! Insurance companies will be able to make insurance filings directly into the system, eliminating the need for paper filings. The system will also tap federal interstate authority and safety databases making highways safer and leveling the playing field for all our customers who already comply with state and federal regulations.

We’re eager to show it all to you. In the coming weeks we will contact you with information on training sessions you can attend. It won’t be long, now.

Certain Loads Require New Haz Mat Permits

On January 1, 2005, the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration began phasing in a new hazardous materials safety-permitting program. Now, carriers of certain hazardous materials - mainly radioactive, explosive and toxic inhalant loads – must hold an FMCSA-issued permit.

Information on this new program can be found on the FMCSA web site: http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/safetyprogs/hm/hm_permitting.htm

On the page you’ll find an excellent question and answer area as well as links to the final rule and proposed rulemaking notices. FMCSA will add more information as it becomes available.

Update on Vertical Clearance Maps

MoDOT's Motor Carrier Services and Transportation Planning are in the final stages of converting from paper vertical clearance maps to an electronic format. Customers will spend less time waiting for an agent to check height restrictions!

Currently, agents consult paper maps to determine if a load can clear all the structures on a requested route. Upon implementation of the electronic format, agents will enter a load's height and route into their computer, which automatically flags any structures that present an obstacle. If the route is clear, the permit is immediately processed. If not, agents change the route until the computer reports good clearance.

"We are excited about the new capability," said Kelly Ray, MCS compliance supervisor, "it will definitely help us speed up the permit process."

MCS 2005 Holiday Schedule

In 2005, MoDOT Motor Carrier Services is open during regular hours on most state holidays. It's business as usual – just like it is for most motor carriers!

Give us a call or visit our office. If you come to Jefferson City, please call us to ensure you've got all the documents we'll need to process your request. Be especially certain to have all title issues squared away. Vehicle titles are not issued on any state holidays.

MoDOT Motor Carrier Services Holiday Schedule for 2005

| Official State Holiday | Closing Date for Observed Holiday |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| Truman's Birthday: May 8 | Monday, May 9, 2005 - open |
| Memorial Day: Last Monday in May | Monday, May 30, 2005 - closed |
| Independence Day: July 4 | Monday, July 4, 2005 - closed |
| Labor Day: First Monday in September | Monday, September 5, 2005 - closed |
| Columbus Day: Second Monday in October | Monday, October 10, 2005 - open |
| Veterans Day: November 11 | Friday, November 11, 2005 - open |
| Thanksgiving Day: Fourth Thursday in November | Thursday, November 24, 2005 - closed |
| Christmas Day: December 25 | Monday, December 26, 2005 - closed |

Please note that MoDOT Motor Carrier Services will be **open** for business on all but the highlighted holidays. All other MoDOT offices will be closed.

(Because the Department of Revenue observes all state holidays you will not be able to obtain vehicle title processing on any of these dates.)

Important Notification Coming!

MCS to implement IRP Staggered Registration for 2006

Senate Bill 1233, which was signed August 28, 2004, allowed MoDOT to implement the staggering of annual renewals for apportioned license plates. Under the Bill, the registrant will be allowed to choose the calendar quarter that they will renew their license plates. To tran-

sition to staggered registration, registrants will be notified in March 2005 by mail requesting them to choose the renewal period of January, April, July or October. Fees will be based on 6 months, 9 months, 12 months or 15 months depending upon the time period selected.

Responses are due April 15th. If the registrant does not respond by this date, the registrant will remain on the calendar year registration

Motor Coach Inspections Resume

Safety never takes a vacation, but thousands of tourists do! That's why MoDOT Motor Carrier Services continues its efforts to improve safety within the motor coach industry.

Enforcement efforts are concentrated near tourist areas in St. Louis, Kansas City and Branson; however, additional inspections will be conducted throughout the state. We'll also visit motor coach company terminals to inspect vehicles.

MCS agents have noticed a recurring issue that has a simple solution. As of late, many drivers received citations because they did not maintain their duty status records for the required previous week. This occurs mainly when drivers file their records at the end of a month and neglect to carry a copy with them at the start of the next month. Please remind your drivers to carry a full record of duty status. It's easy to do and it keeps us all safe.

Carrier Fee Collections Up

MoDOT Motor Carrier Services customers have kept us busy!

Between July and December 2004, revenue collected by MCS increased by more than \$500,000 compared to the same period in 2003.

At the same time, MCS collected both Missouri and non-state (other jurisdiction) fees of \$86,600,000. Nearly 78 percent of this total was collected in November and December.

The money collected is used to improve city, county and state roads and bridges as well as railroad crossing locations.

People to Know

This month, we salute all Motor Carrier Services agents who worked overtime through the holiday season to make certain motor carriers would have everything they needed to operate in 2005.

During a single week, December 27 – 31, 2004, the team:

- assisted 922 walk-in customers;
- issued 2,586 stamps/stickers/operating authority receipts
4,845 registration cards
416 temporary registration permits
2,032 overweight/overdimension permits, and
365 new plates
- renewed 4,720 license plates;
- collected \$7.6 million in fees.

We couldn't be prouder of our team. Though there have been many changes since members of the One Stop Shop became part of MoDOT, their focus on customer service and workflow processes continues to "WOW" our customers.

Datelines

Apr. 15

Financial statements for household good carriers and non-charter passenger carriers due

Apr. 15

Responses for staggered registration due.

May 2

2nd quarter fuel tax returns due.

May 9

Truman's Birthday State Holiday - MCS open/other MoDOT offices closed

May 30

Memorial Day - State Holiday- **All** MoDOT offices closed

Did You Know?

Motor Carrier Services has a new e-mail address. It's contactmcs@modot.mo.gov. We want to hear from you, so please send a note with your questions, concerns and observations. We're sorry, but we cannot take requests for permits, licensing or other credentials at this address.

MoDOT Motor Carrier Services' holiday schedule is now on our website, www.carrier.state.mo.us, as is an electronic copy of the new "Who We Are" pamphlet. Check out both to learn more about how MCS can serve you!

Note

On January 26, 2005 the MCS Region 7 office moved from Clinton to Warrensburg, MO. The new office address is:

MoDOT MCS Division 7
506 N. Maguire Street, Suite D
Warrensburg, Missouri 64093

Please note their new numbers: phone (660) 543-1000 and fax (660) 543-1003.

News on Wheels

Missouri Department of
Transportation
Motor Carrier Services
P.O. Box 893
Jefferson City, MO 65102
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Toll Free: 866.831.6277
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Additional copies available upon request.
If you have any questions or comments,
please send them to the address at left.

Motor Carrier Services Director
Jan Skouby

www.carrier.state.mo.us

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Our mission is to provide a world-class transportation experience that delights our customers and promotes a prosperous Missouri.





News on **Wheels**

Missouri Department of Transportation
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Physical Address

1320 Creek Trail Drive
Jefferson City, MO 65109

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|---|---|
| International Registration Plan | Regulations, IRP applications, reciprocity, trip permits, temporary authorizations, license plates, cab cards |
| International Fuel Tax Agreement | Regulations, Missouri IFTA applications, temporary fuel permits |
| Overdimension and Overweight | Regulations, permits, blanket permits |
| Single State Registration, Interstate Exempt, Intrastate Authority, Housemovers License, Hazardous Waste and Waste Tires | Applications, SSRS receipts, stamps, stickers, licenses, proof of insurance |
| Safety and HM Regulations/Enforcement | Information, regulations, training, compliance reviews, educational contacts, complaint investigations |

Web sites: www.carrier.state.mo.us and www.modot.org